United Nations A/71/159

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 July 2016

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Item 134 of the provisional agenda*
Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

United Nations Office for Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decisions 52/466 and 53/475, wherein the Secretary-General was requested to inform the Assembly, on a regular basis, about the activities of the United Nations Office for Partnerships. It supplements the information contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/700 and Add.1, A/54/664 and Add.1-3, A/55/763 and Corr.1, A/57/133, A/58/173, A/59/170, A/60/327, A/61/189, A/62/220, A/63/257, A/64/91, A/65/347, A/66/188, A/67/165, A/68/186, A/69/218 and A/70/202).

The United Nations Office for Partnerships strives to serve as a gateway for public-private partnerships in furtherance of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Office oversees the following areas:

The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) was established in 1998 to serve as the interface between the United Nations Foundation and the United Nations system. At the end of 2015, the cumulative allocations as approved by the Foundation for UNFIP projects to be implemented by the United Nations system reached approximately $1.4 billion. Of this amount, it is estimated that $0.45 billion (about 32 per cent) represents core Turner funds and $0.96 billion (about 68 per cent) was generated as co-financing from other partners. The total number of United Nations projects and programmes supported through the end of 2015 by the Foundation through UNFIP stands at 592. Collectively, these projects are implemented by 43 United Nations entities in 124 countries.

The United Nations Democracy Fund, which was established by the Secretary-General in July 2005 to support democratization around the world. It focuses on strengthening the voice of civil society, promoting human rights and ensuring the participation of all groups in democratic processes. Through the Fund,

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the Office has channelled approximately $154 million to almost 600 projects in more than 130 countries around the world, ranging from strengthening civil society leadership skills and promoting the participation of women and youth to media programmes that allow civil society to project its voice.

The Office also provides **partnership advisory and outreach services** in response to demand from the United Nations system, governments and non-State actors to catalyse public-private partnerships through high-impact events and advice to potential partners regarding opportunities and good practices to promote the Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for action.

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I. United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

1. The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) was established in 1998 to serve as the interface between the United Nations Foundation and the United Nations system. The work of UNFIP is overseen by the UNFIP Advisory Board, which is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General.

2. As at 31 December 2015, the cumulative allocations approved by the Foundation for UNFIP projects reached approximately $1.4 billion. Of that amount, $0.45 billion (about 32 per cent) comes from core Turner funds and $0.96 billion (about 68 per cent) was generated as co-financing from other partners. Since its inception, 592 projects have been implemented or are under implementation by 43 United Nations entities in 124 countries. During 2015, the Foundation approved projects totalling $46.1 million, the majority ($42.6 million) focused on global health. The selection of projects and initiatives supported by the Foundation through UNFIP is highlighted in the present report.

3. The United Nations Foundation was founded by Ted Turner as a public charity in the United States of America to demonstrate the value of investing in the United Nations, encourage other sectors to work with the United Nations, and promote strong United States leadership at the United Nations. The Foundation's activities have evolved from its early years, which were focused more exclusively on grant-making, to the current model of communicating, championing, convening and fostering collaboration, in addition to continuing to channel resources in support of United Nations goals.

4. The Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the United Nations Foundation, as established in 1998, has been renewed twice, first in 2007 and again in 2014, when the partnership was renewed for an additional 10-year period under a Revised and Restated Relationship Agreement, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office for Partnerships (A/70/202). A Joint Coordinating Committee, established under the new Agreement, is the principal forum to ensure strong and timely communication and coordination between the United Nations and the Foundation. The Joint Coordination Committee met three times in 2015.

Support for innovative partnerships, campaigns and initiatives

5. The Foundation collaborates with the United Nations to foster innovative partnerships, campaigns and initiatives to secure better and healthier lives for people across the globe by focusing on global health; women, girls and population; and energy and climate.

6. While the Foundation has largely concentrated on the same areas of focus since its inception, its strategy and methods of work have evolved as follows:

(a) **Communicating**. The Foundation deploys a diverse set of communications tools to build informed public support for the United Nations, as well as to give wider visibility to issues that are high on its agenda. This work is conducted in close collaboration with the Department of Public Information and other communications colleagues across the United Nations system;

(b) **Championing**. The Foundation champions the United Nations and United Nations causes through global and United States-based advocacy initiatives

that connect citizens to the United Nations. The Foundation helps to foster a common understanding about the mission of the United Nations and also helps to ensure strong and sustained United States Government support for the United Nations;

(c) **Convening**. The Foundation collaborates with various United Nations entities to convene stakeholders and foster dialogue on a range of issues, including in the lead-up to important milestone events such as the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa, and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York;

(d) **Collaborating**. The Foundation has become an institutional home for a number of multi-stakeholder collaborations and partnerships in support of the Organization's global development priorities;

(e) **Channelling**. The Foundation continues to work with stakeholders to mobilize and channel resources to the United Nations system through UNFIP.

A. Global health

7. Enhancing the Organization's global health agenda has been one of the United Nations Foundation's long-standing objectives. The Foundation leverages its expertise and resources to help the United Nations address global health priorities, including delivering life-saving vaccines and anti-malaria nets, empowering women and girls with the tools to plan their families and have safe pregnancies and preventing household air pollution by providing clean cookstoves to families.

8. The Foundation has worked in close collaboration with UNFIP, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to support a number of key global health campaigns and initiatives working to eliminate preventable diseases such as polio, measles, rubella and malaria.

9. During 2015, the Foundation also continued its efforts to mobilize attention and resources to support the United Nations response to the Ebola virus outbreak.

Every Woman, Every Child

10. The United Nations Foundation has collaborated closely with the United Nations to build strong support among multi-stakeholder partners for Every Woman, Every Child. Launched by the Secretary-General during the Millennium Development Goals Summit in September 2010, Every Woman, Every Child is a global movement that mobilizes international and national action by governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society to address major health challenges facing women and children around the world. The initiative put into action the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health to accelerate progress on Goals 4, 5 and 6 of the Millennium Development Goals.

11. On 26 September 2015, the Secretary-General launched an updated Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030) to support

the newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals. Including ambitious targets, and fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, the updated Global Strategy offers a universal and broader road map to end all preventable deaths of women, children and adolescents. With an emphasis on multisectoral dimensions of well-being, the Global Strategy aims to ensure that women, children and adolescents not only survive but also thrive and transform the world by 2030.

12. With guidance from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Foundation also managed global advocacy and communications for the initiative and conducted outreach to the private sector, including the collection of new commitments to the updated Global Strategy. The Foundation continues to support the movement, including through the "Everywhere work stream", focused on the health of women, children and adolescents living in the most fragile circumstances.

Measles and rubella

13. The Measles and Rubella Initiative is a global partnership, launched in 2001, committed to reducing measles deaths and limiting the number of children born with congenital rubella syndrome. The Initiative is led jointly by WHO, UNICEF, the American Red Cross, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United Nations Foundation. The Initiative aims to advance the Global Measles and Rubella Strategic Plan 2012-2020 by helping countries to increase vaccination coverage for measles, rubella and other preventable diseases; fund, plan, implement and monitor quality supplementary campaigns; investigate outbreaks; and provide technical and financial support for effective disease surveillance and outbreak response.

14. The Foundation has been a long-standing partner of the Measles and Rubella Initiative and continues to play an important role as an advocate, fundraiser and fiduciary, including through the Shot@Life campaign. Shot@Life engages civil society, policymakers and partners to decrease vaccine-preventable childhood deaths by supporting the efforts of UNICEF and WHO. The Foundation leverages Shot@Life to educate, connect and empower the United States public to champion vaccines and United States bilateral funding for measles and rubella. During 2015, a total of $34.5 million was disbursed by the Foundation through UNFIP to UNICEF and WHO in support of Initiative activities around the world.

Polio

15. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is a public-private partnership led by five core partners: the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Rotary International, UNICEF, WHO and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Since its inception in 1988, the Initiative has immunized more than 2.5 billion children worldwide and raised more than $10 billion with the goal of creating a polio-free world. The United Nations Foundation supports the Initiative through global and United States-focused advocacy, communications and public outreach and through the provision of grants to United Nations partners.

16. The Foundation's advocacy, communications and the provision of grants with regard to polio is guided by the Initiative's Polio Advocacy and Communication Team's annual strategy and workplan. Similar to the Measles and Rubella Initiative noted above, the Foundation leverages the Shot@Life campaign to educate, connect

and empower the United States public to champion vaccines and United States bilateral funding for polio.

17. In 2015, the Foundation built on its partnership with Walgreens, the largest pharmacy chain in the United States, to raise awareness and help provide vaccines to children in developing countries through the "Get a Shot. Give a Shot." campaign. Starting in September 2015, for every vaccine administered in the United States at Walgreens pharmacies, an amount equivalent to the price of one vaccine was donated to the campaign. Walgreens also actively publicizes this partnership through messaging to the public that communicates the importance of immunization as well as the work of UNICEF worldwide.

18. During 2015, more than $730,000 was disbursed by the Foundation through UNFIP to UNICEF to finance the procurement of approximately 4.5 million doses of oral polio vaccines for a subnational polio campaign in Afghanistan to vaccinate children under the age of 5. An additional grant of more than $133,800 was disbursed to UNICEF to support polio eradication initiatives in Somalia, aimed at the vaccination of children on the move at international borders. Both of the grants were made in the wider context of the Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan (2013-2018) with funds raised through the Shot@Life campaign.

Ebola crisis response

19. In September 2014 the Secretary-General launched the Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund in response to the Ebola outbreak to unite efforts of all concerned United Nations entities and act as a platform for the global control of the outbreak. Funding was directed by Mission officials towards the priority financial needs of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes working on the response. In early 2015, the United Nations Foundation made a contribution of $130,000 through UNFIP to the Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

20. Since the onset of the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa, thousands of health-care workers and support staff have travelled to the region to assist in the international response effort. Hundreds of those health-care workers were subsequently diagnosed with the Ebola virus. In that context, the Foundation provided a grant through UNFIP to WHO of $2,280,727 to help cover the travel and associated health-care costs of health workers medically evacuated from Ebola-affected countries.

Malaria (Nothing But Nets campaign)

21. Nothing But Nets is a global grass-roots campaign to raise awareness and funding to fight malaria through the provision of life-saving bednets and other malaria interventions. The Nothing But Nets online giving platform allows for individuals around the world to join the fight against malaria by purchasing and sending bednets to malaria-affected communities and advocating to policymakers to increase United States investments in malaria interventions.

22. Nothing But Nets works primarily with UNICEF, WHO and UNHCR to purchase insecticide-treated bednets and distribute them to affected countries in Africa. Net distributions are typically part of a wider public health effort within a country coordinated by its Ministry of Health, the United Nations and other local and international organizations.

23. In 2015, the United Nations Foundation provided a grant of $257,864 through UNFIP to UNHCR to implement a malaria prevention project for Nigerian refugees in both the Niger and Chad and for Sudanese refugees in Chad.

B. Women, girls and population

24. Empowering and addressing the needs of women and girls is key to alleviating poverty, achieving justice and enhancing the progress of the global development agenda. Lack of adequate education and family planning services leads to the persistence of chronic poverty, high child and maternal mortality, early marriage, vulnerability to exploitation and a diminished voice in public life.

25. Over the years, the United Nations Foundation has worked with United Nations partners, including UNFPA, UN-Women, UNICEF and UNHCR, to promote gender equality, improve maternal health care, advance sexual and reproductive health and rights, advocate for stronger support for rights of adolescent girls and eliminate gender-based violence.

Family Planning 2020

26. Family Planning 2020 is a global partnership that works with governments, civil society, multilateral organizations, the private sector and the research and development community to enable 120 million more women and girls to use contraceptives by 2020. An outcome of the London Summit on Family Planning, held in 2012, Family Planning 2020 is based on the principle that all women, no matter where they live, should have access to life-saving contraceptives.

27. The United Nations Foundation serves as the secretariat to the initiative, which is co-chaired by UNFPA and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

28. Achieving the goals of Family Planning 2020 will be critical to ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights by 2030, as laid out in Goals 3 and 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The initiative also supports and aligns with the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health.

29. More than 80 formal commitments have been made to the Family Planning 2020 initiative since its launch in 2012. In late 2015, the initiative's secretariat conducted an extensive strategic review of the partnership's progress to date, which led to the development and launch of a new strategy for 2016-2020. The new strategy emphasizes four cross-cutting priorities: country support; data and performance management; global advocacy, rights and youth; and knowledge and evidence.

Girl Up campaign

30. In September 2010, in response to calls by UNFPA and other United Nations organizations for intensified efforts to address the needs and rights of adolescent girls, the United Nations Foundation launched Girl Up, an innovative advocacy and fundraising campaign that engages teen girls across the United States and around the world to improve the lives of adolescent girls. Girl Up has inspired more than 1,350 clubs in 80 countries around the world, in which members learn about the issues faced by adolescent girls and take action to make change.

31. In 2015, through Girl Up's partners and fundraising efforts, the Foundation provided a grant of $575,000 through UNFIP in support of UNFPA Action for Adolescent Girls programme activities in India and Guatemala. The initiative seeks to protect the rights of adolescent girls, in particular by delaying the ages at which they marry and bear children, empowering the most marginalized girls and elevating their status in their communities. The programme uses an evidenced-based approach aimed at strengthening "protective assets" for girls (e.g., health, social and economic) that targets the most marginalized populations.

32. Through the Girl Up campaign, the Foundation also provided a grant of $856,306 in support of a United Nations system inter-agency programme in Guatemala to promote the rights and leadership of indigenous adolescent girls and to assist in providing them with the necessary skills to actively participate in making decisions that affect their lives. The United Nations implementing partners for this initiative include UNICEF, UN-Women, WHO, UNFPA and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

33. In addition, the Foundation and the Girl Up campaign supported the UNHCR Educate Girls Ideas Challenge, launched in September 2014. In 2015, the Foundation provided a grant of $50,000 to assist adolescent girls in the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan to increase their literacy skills and educational attainment. Approximately 1,000 refugee girls were provided with a virtual library of educational resources, together with a learning management system, to assist them in a structured self-paced learning programme. In addition to that grant, the Foundation and the Girl Up campaign supported the #educategirls social media campaign.

C. Energy and climate

34. Since its inception, the United Nations Foundation has been working closely with the United Nations to help achieve progress towards a safer, cleaner, more equitable and climate-friendly energy future. The Foundation has championed action on a range of global climate and energy issues, especially through its support of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, launched by the Secretary-General and now an international not-for-profit organization.

Sustainable Energy for All

35. The Sustainable Energy for All initiative seeks to mobilize action from all sectors of society in support of three interlinked objectives to be achieved by 2030: ensuring universal access to modern energy services; doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; and doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

36. In 2015, the United Nations Foundation continued its support of Sustainable Energy for All through thought leadership, strategic communications and convening and partnership-building. Support has been focused on three main sub-initiatives:

(a) **Energy for Women's and Children's Health**. This partnership between the Foundation, WHO and UN-Women uses the international framework of the initiative to help mobilize and coordinate engagement at the nexus of energy, health care and women. Through UNFIP, the Foundation provided a $100,000 grant to

WHO to help build the evidence base for energy-health linkages, and a $75,000 grant to UN-Women to raise public awareness about and mobilize key stakeholders for health clinic electrification in Uganda in 2015. That work was done in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the Government of Uganda. The Foundation also partnered with UNICEF in Uganda to support the deployment of 50 solar suitcases in health clinics;

(b) **Energy Access Practitioner Network**. The network is a global platform that brings together energy service providers and stakeholders from around the world to support the delivery of clean, reliable and affordable decentralized energy solutions;

(c) **Clean Energy Mini-Grids**. The Foundation helps lead a Clean Energy Mini-Grids consortium of more than 300 organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), private and public sector organizations and civil society. The consortium uses the international framework of Sustainable Energy for All to enable, enhance and promote existing and upcoming efforts in the mini-grids sector, with a view to increasing the rate of deployment and the impact on market transformation.

37. In 2015, the Foundation also provided a $250,000 grant through UNFIP to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to help support the costs of staff, travel and international consultants working to support the implementation of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative's activities.

38. At the end of 2015, the Sustainable Energy for All initiative transitioned to become an international non-profit organization, hosted by the Government of Austria.

Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

39. The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is a public-private partnership hosted by the United Nations Foundation to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women and protect the environment by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions. The Alliance has a 10-year goal to foster the adoption of clean cookstoves and fuels in 100 million households by 2020. The Alliance is working with a network of public, private and non-profit partners to help overcome the market barriers that currently impede the production, deployment and use of clean cookstoves in developing countries.

40. In 2015, the Foundation provided, through UNFIP, $379,955 in grants to support WHO in its efforts to build the capacity of the health sector to understand and engage with different stakeholders who are working to improve access to modern energy in homes while reducing household air pollution. Through a regional workshop, the development and piloting of a policy-planning tool and communications activities, the project aims to build on the findings and recommendations of the first-ever WHO guidelines for indoor air quality to support the development and implementation of healthy home energy interventions.

Engaging weathercasters as climate change communicators

41. In 2015, the United Nations Foundation provided $200,000, through UNFIP, to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to support the capacity of weathercasters to more effectively communicate information about climate change.

The project aims to improve the access of weathercasters to WMO climate information and resources, strengthen the international network of weathercasters on climate forecasting and enable weathercasters to more effectively cover the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which took place in Paris in 2015.

D. Advocacy, communication and other development-related issues

42. As in previous years, the United Nations Foundation directed its communications and advocacy strategy towards raising the visibility of the work of the United Nations in close collaboration with the United Nations system. In 2015, those efforts focused on creating advocacy platforms and tools to support a robust global communications strategy with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and climate change in the lead-up to the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Seventieth anniversary of the United Nations

43. The United Nations Foundation, in close collaboration with the Department of Public Information and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, conducted a number of activities to increase awareness of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations. The Foundation helped to organize the Secretary-General's trip to San Francisco, California, in June 2015, to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations. The Foundation also financially supported the Norman Rockwell "We the Peoples" exhibit at United Nations Headquarters from June to December 2015, as well as the issuance of a book focusing on the architecture of the Headquarters.

Support for the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and for the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

44. In 2015, as world leaders gathered first at United Nations Headquarters in New York and then in Paris to take historic action on sustainable development and climate change, respectively, the United Nations Foundation partnered with 25 media organizations to expand and elevate the conversation and reporting with regard to those issues. The Foundation also partnered with a number of organizations, including the Thomson Reuters Foundation, to inform and train more than 1,000 journalists from 36 countries on sustainable development issues. The training sessions took place in more than 30 cities and in several languages, connecting reporters, editors and communicators from the United Nations and international non-governmental organizations.

45. The Foundation also launched the "Communications Corps": an informal network of public relations, marketing and digital media experts who lent their expertise and provided pro bono assets to support communications about the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the Foundation launched the GlobalDaily.org and GlobalGoals.org platforms (the latter in partnership with Project Everyone) to aggregate, distribute and highlight press about the Goals.

46. In support of the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Foundation assembled a diverse

coalition of more than 100 partners called "Earth To Paris" to highlight the connection between people and planet and the need for strong climate action, to showcase climate solutions and innovations, to bring together communities to promote collaboration and to engage people around the world in the dialogue taking place in Paris. United Nations partners included UNESCO, UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF, the United Nations Global Compact, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the Global Pulse. According to the Foundation, that virtual mobilization resulted in more than 1.4 billion impressions on social and traditional media and reached more than 100 million individuals.

Sixth annual Social Good Summit

47. The Social Good Summit is a unique convening of prominent global figures, new media and technology experts, grass-roots activists and voices from around the world. In 2015, the Social Good Summit was convened in an unprecedented 109 country office locations in coordination with UNDP, in addition to the main Summit event convened in New York on 27 and 28 September. The Social Good Summit, for which the theme in 2015 was "New Goals. New Power. New Technology. #2030NOW." was translated into seven languages, capturing 1.8 million impressions worldwide through social media, as reported by the United Nations Foundation. The Foundation also provided a grant in the amount of $40,000 to UNDP to support exemplary national-level Social Good Summit events in three target countries — Kenya, Pakistan and Rwanda — intended to serve as good-practice models for UNDP country offices around the world.

Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

48. The United Nations Foundation was selected in November 2015 to serve as the institutional home for the secretariat of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, which was launched in September 2015 on the sidelines of the seventieth session of the General Assembly. The Global Partnership is a multi-stakeholder network comprising more than 100 members from governments, international organizations, companies, civil society and statistics and data communities. The Global Partnership aims to fill critical data gaps and ensure that data are more accurate, timely, open and useable for the measurement and achievement of inclusive and sustainable development. The Global Partnership serves as a convener, connector and catalyst, building trust and encouraging collaboration among stakeholders across sectors towards those aims.

Data2X

49. Launched in July 2012, Data2X is a collaborative technical and advocacy platform that works with United Nations agencies, governments, civil society and the private sector to close gender data gaps, promote expanded and unbiased gender data collection and use gender data to improve policies, strategies and decision-making. Data2X is led by the United Nations Foundation with support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Data2X is also a gender data lead within the new Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data.

50. Data2X works with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on regional partnerships by

supporting and strengthening efforts to collect data on gender and national civil registration and vital statistics. Data2X works closely with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Bank to design and pilot surveys that are inclusive of women's paid and unpaid work. This partnership currently includes a grant of $250,000, provided through UNFIP to ILO. Data2X also works with Global Pulse, UN-Women and individual academic researchers to explore how different methods of collecting and analysing big data could potentially close global gender gaps.

Global Pulse: big data for development

51. The Secretary-General launched Global Pulse in 2009 to support the United Nations system in generating more timely information to track and monitor the impacts of socioeconomic crises and exploit the opportunities offered by big data. Global Pulse is an inter-agency initiative designed to contribute to the "Delivering as one" approach to strengthen the capacity of governments to measure development effectiveness and attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and now the Sustainable Development Goals.

52. Global Pulse partners with United Nations agencies, governments, academia and the private sector to develop and mainstream approaches for applying real-time digital data to development and humanitarian challenges.

53. In 2015, the United Nations Foundation provided four project grants totalling more than $672,700 to Global Pulse through UNFIP in support of several emerging areas of work, including measuring climate resilience, expanding the use of big data for gender, analysing public sentiment on vaccination campaigns and demonstrating the potential for big data to garner insights to help reduce instances of child marriage.

II. United Nations Democracy Fund

54. The United Nations Democracy Fund was established during the 2005 World Summit as a United Nations General Trust Fund and launched in April 2006, with the United Nations Office for Partnerships/UNFIP providing administrative support and resource-sharing. Since then, the grant-making body has become clearly defined as a fund for civil society organizations. It is the only United Nations entity that has the word "democracy" in its name, the only United Nations body with the primary purpose of supporting democracy through empowering civil society and one of the youngest entities in the United Nations system. The large majority of project funds go to local civil society organizations in countries in both the transition and consolidation phases of democratization. By supporting the "demand" rather than the "supply" side of democratization, the Fund plays a new, distinct and unique role in complementing and enhancing the more traditional work of the United Nations — the work with governments — to strengthen democratic governance around the world.

55. In the years since its creation, the Fund has experienced considerable growth in its portfolio, its donor base, its impact and its visibility. Its projects aim to strengthen the voice of civil society, promote human rights and encourage the participation of all groups in democratic processes. It also supports a number of major global and regional projects with a normative and policy focus. In its first

nine rounds of funding, the Fund supported almost 600 projects in more than 130 countries, with a total disbursement of more than $154 million. The projects ranged from supporting civil society efforts for accountability and transparency to building capacity for strengthening good governance and the rule of law.

56. A key part of the Fund's mission is to ensure that all levels of government are accountable to those they serve by increasing the knowledge, capacity, voice and reach of citizens' organizations. With the adoption in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Fund undertook to prioritize projects that, inter alia, hold governments accountable with regard to working to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

A. Ninth round of funding

57. The call for proposals for the Fund's ninth round was open from 15 November to 31 December 2014. The Fund received 2,331 project proposals from civil society, reflecting the continued high demand for support from the Fund to finance projects that strengthen the voice of civil society, promote human rights and encourage the participation of all groups in democratic processes. The proposals originated from organizations in 143 countries, the vast majority of them local non-governmental organizations in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.

58. The response added further to the considerable growth the Fund has experienced since its creation in 2005, with initiatives that reflect a focus on strengthening the voice of civil society, thereby increasing concentration on the demand side of democracy, rather than on the supply side.

59. In the ninth round, 51 projects were funded at a total cost of $8,878,000. As defined by their key activities, the projects broke down as follows:

(a) Youth engagement (48 per cent);

(b) Rule of law and human rights (17 per cent);

(c) Community activism (11 per cent);

(d) Strengthening interaction with governments (10 per cent);

(e) Media and freedom of information (8 per cent);

(f) Women's empowerment (6 per cent).

60. The emphasis on youth engagement projects in round nine reflected the fact that today, one person in five is between the ages of 15 and 24. Never before has the transition from youth to adulthood come with such challenges and opportunities. Young people have abilities to network that would have been unimaginable when the United Nations was founded 70 years ago. They are connecting about issues that matter, ranging from injustice, discrimination and climate change to human rights and the need for human solidarity. The emphasis also reflected a turning point for the United Nations, as the international community strived to agree on new Sustainable Development Goals and a new universal and meaningful climate agreement — commitments that those who are young today will have to live with and carry forward.

B. Donor base

61. The cumulative total amount of contributions received from 2005 to 2015 exceeded $169 million.

C. Evaluation

62. The Fund's contracted firm of internationally renowned evaluators, Transtec, had completed more than 170 post-project evaluations by the end of 2015. The vast majority of the evaluations were positive, while also providing valuable lessons learned for the Fund's knowledge management. The Fund published all post-project evaluations on its public website, as decided by its Advisory Board. In that way, the Fund consolidated its position as one of the most transparent entities in the United Nations system.

D. Governance

63. The two governing mechanisms of the Fund, the Advisory Board and the Programme Consultative Group, continued to play an active and guiding role during 2015. In addition to recommending funding proposals for the Secretary-General's approval, the Advisory Board provided the Secretary-General with policy guidance on the development of programme frameworks and funding guidelines. The Programme Consultative Group provided input and quality control in the project selection process and the implementation phase, making use of the specific expertise of each of its entities: the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Peacebuilding Support Office, UNDP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UN-Women.

E. Tenth round of funding

64. The United Nations Democracy Fund launched its tenth round of calls for project proposals in November 2015. When applications closed on 31 December 2015, the Fund had received 2,664 project proposals. The vast majority of applications came from local or regional civil society organizations in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Arab region and Eastern Europe. In accordance with the annual timetable adhered to by the Fund, tenth round applications were to be assessed by March 2016 and the Advisory Board was to recommend a short list in May, after which the Fund was to advise Permanent Missions of Member States in which listed projects were to take place. The short list of projects was to aim at prioritizing, inter alia, initiatives that were to hold governments accountable on working to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. The short list was then to be submitted to the Secretary-General for approval. Short-listed applicants were to be asked to submit draft project documents by midyear, to be negotiated with the Fund, and the first tranches of project funding were to be disbursed by September, once again in a timeline that compares favourably with international standards.

F. Democracy in action

65. Examples of the United Nations Democracy Fund's projects are listed below.

Strengthening civil participation in journalism and data-based investigative reporting in Argentina

66. In Argentina, a project funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund launched a number of investigative journalism initiatives to promote citizen involvement in the monitoring of public affairs and improve their access to data and information. The project aims to engage citizens in the production of news content and enhance their access to data. It works with local journalists to give citizens more of a say in gathering and processing data for investigations and to use the opportunities made available to them for monitoring and demanding accountability from their leaders. The project also aims to provide better data about the topics covered by the investigations, and innovate in media and journalism by conducting data-based and crowdsourced investigative reporting for the first time in the country. The project will be complemented by a media and social networks campaign.

Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab civil society agenda

67. Another project funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund works in five countries in the Middle East and North Africa (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia) with the goal of enhancing the participation of civil society organizations in the sustainable development agenda. The project aims to increase accountability for the Sustainable Development Goals through building a permanent Arab forum that will build capacity, promote social dialogue and influence policymaking. In a recent report on the Arab Millennium Development Goals,[1] it was shown that Arab countries had achieved progress on many indicators, especially progress towards education targets. However, they had failed in promoting inclusive development and were faced with tackling socioeconomic development challenges to address the aspirations of citizens. The project aims to address the process of democratic transition in the Arab region, with a focus on socioeconomic reforms.

Using access to information to foster open expenditure and budget transparency in Liberia

68. A project funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund in Liberia works against corruption by fostering transparency in the run-up to the third post-civil war national elections taking place in 2017. The project started by identifying local citizen-based organizations that can engage at the community level with discussions and awareness-raising on the impact of corruption. The project also identified individual journalists working at local radio stations to investigate development projects and be trained in anti-corruption reporting. A team of anti-corruption champions based at community radio stations is being activated to advocate for redress and monitor and increase public awareness in the fight against corruption.

[1] Available from undp.org/content/dam/rbas/doc/MDGS%20publications/Arab_MDGR_2013_English.pdf.

III. Partnership advisory and outreach services

69. The United Nations system has collaborated with the private sector, academia and civil society for a number of years. In the 2005 World Summit Outcome (see General Assembly resolution 60/1), Member States recognized the importance of, and expressed strong support for, the active engagement of non-State actors in promoting the development agenda of the United Nations system.

70. Likewise, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Member States at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, includes, under Sustainable Development Goal 17, entitled "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development", a call for enhanced global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Goals. The 2030 Agenda also encourages effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships.

71. To promote the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Office for Partnerships collaborates with the United Nations Foundation, United Nations programmes, funds and agencies, Member States, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to convene innovative events and provides advice to potential partners regarding collaborative opportunities and good practices.

72. In 2015, a wide range of companies, foundations and non-governmental organizations approached the Office to explore opportunities for engagement with the United Nations and offer assistance to pool expertise and resources to address issues on the United Nations agenda. They sought advice on how to specifically partner with the United Nations to advance the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and to learn about collaborative opportunities related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

73. Selected key partnership projects and initiatives are listed below.

Permanent memorial at the United Nations to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade

74. The United Nations Office for Partnerships continued to support the permanent memorial project and administer the Trust Fund account in relation to receipts, allocations and disbursements of the resources. As at 31 December 2015, the total contributions received were $2,170,983, primarily from Member States. The permanent memorial, entitled *Ark of Return*, was unveiled on 25 March 2015. The memorial, located at the Visitors' Plaza at United Nations Headquarters, invites people to contemplate the legacy of the slave trade and to fight against racism and prejudice today.

Youth Assembly at the United Nations (winter and summer sessions)

75. On 11 and 12 February 2015, the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation and the Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations convened, in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Partnerships, the United Nations Foundation and Microsoft, the winter session of the 2015 Youth Assembly. The event aimed to foster conversation among a group of 500 international students, United Nations

representatives, the private sector and civil society in order to educate and encourage young people to become active participants in the success of the Sustainable Development Goals.

76. As part of this event, the Office organized a panel discussion on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development featuring the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning, together with United Nations Foundation and ILO representatives.

77. The summer session of the Youth Assembly, organized by the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations, as well as other Permanent Missions, took place from 5 to 7 August 2015. The United Nations Office for Partnerships curated and moderated a panel discussion on multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives, including speakers representing the United Nations Foundation, the Zero Hunger Challenge and Global Pulse. The other discussions addressed topics such as the Sustainable Development Goals and new technologies, and the financial responsibility of youth.

International Women's Day Forum: "The empowerment bridge: building a lifetime of opportunity for women and girls"

78. On 4 and 5 March 2015, the United States Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the United Nations Office for Partnerships, UN-Women and Microsoft jointly convened the fifth annual forum on the occasion of International Women's Day. The forum brought together more than 250 public and private sector leaders to explore empowerment solutions to increase gender equality and economic independence for women and girls around the world. The forum discussed various ways to empower women and foster entrepreneurship as well as the role of the business community in the Sustainable Development Goals. The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning delivered introductory remarks at the panel discussion on the role of the business community in promoting the Goals. The panel discussion examined specific partnership strategies that aim to reinforce the universal, integrated and transformative nature of the Goals.

High-level panel discussion on "Catalytic partnerships for gender equality in education: the way forward"

79. On 10 March 2015, UNESCO, UN-Women, UNFPA, the United Nations Office for Partnerships and the World Bank jointly convened a high-level panel discussion on the role of partnerships to achieve gender equality in education. Featured as a side event to the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the list of speakers included the Minister for Women, Children and Youth Affairs of Ethiopia; the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations; the Director General of UNESCO; the Executive Director of UNFPA; the Executive Director of UN-Women; and representatives of the World Bank; the United Nations Foundation; and Voss Foundation. Drawing on successful case studies, the panel discussion explored different types of partnerships that contribute to educational breakthroughs for girls and women with a focus on making such partnerships successful and sustainable in the post-2015 period. As part of the event, a new inter-agency joint programme was launched. Called Empowering Adolescent Girls and Young Women through Education, the joint programme is led by

UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Women and the World Bank. The debate contributed to ongoing consultations on the post-2015 education agenda, including in the context of the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, which took place in May. The event brought together approximately 200 attendees representing Permanent Missions, civil society organizations and United Nations programmes, funds and agencies.

IMPACT 2030

80. On 24 April 2015, United Nations Volunteers and the United Nations Office for Partnerships jointly convened a luncheon discussion featuring founding partners of IMPACT 2030, a global non-profit and private sector-led initiative created to mobilize employee volunteers to directly contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The event brought together representatives of UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other parts of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of the IMPACT 2030 founding partners.

Media for Social Impact Summit

81. On 1 May 2015, PVBLIC Foundation and the United Nations Office for Partnerships, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, jointly convened the second annual Media for Social Impact Summit to highlight the power of media to drive social change and to showcase strategic campaigns about global issues. PVBLIC Foundation is a non-profit media organization that works to pair media space with key non-profit organizations at the local, national and global levels. The Summit gathered more than 400 representatives of the United Nations system and leading media companies and creative agencies to showcase innovative campaigns that promote social progress to outline how media can engage with the United Nations on the Sustainable Development Goals.

82. In a follow-up to the Summit, the Office facilitated a series of discussions between UNEP and the IMAX Corporation, a company that creates entertainment technology and is best known for its big-screen theatres, to explore partnership opportunities and strengthen support by the IMAX Corporation for the objectives of UNEP. On 16 March 2016, UNEP and the IMAX Corporation launched a partnership initiative called "Big Picture", which aims to address a host of environmental, societal and economic issues. The campaign seeks to leverage the power of film to raise awareness and promote appreciation for the "big picture": the understanding that actions we take in our daily lives can have a significant impact on the future of the planet. Through film, the partnership between the two entities intends to promote solutions for climate change as well as actions to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Global Insurance Forum

83. On 17 June 2015, as part of the annual Global Insurance Forum of the International Insurance Society, the United Nations Office for Partnerships and the Society, in consultation with the Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team, jointly convened a meeting of the Forum at United Nations Headquarters. The event gathered United Nations officials, representatives of Member States, leaders of insurance companies, research institutions and civil society organizations to explore

the role of the insurance industry in creating partnership initiatives to support the emerging Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on economic growth, financial stability, affordable health care and global environmental security. The Forum provided a platform to discuss specific collaborative initiatives aimed at mitigating global disaster and climate change risks and supporting sustainable economies. As a follow-up to the Forum, the Office has been working with the International Insurance Society to further the engagement of the insurance industry with the United Nations system to strengthen their support in achieving the Goals. In September 2015, the Society announced its commitment towards the Secretary-General's Every Woman, Every Child initiative.

Nexus Global Youth Summit on Innovative Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship

84. From 23 to 25 July 2015, Nexus and the United Nations Office for Partnerships jointly convened the fifth annual Nexus Global Youth Summit on Innovative Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship at United Nations Headquarters. With several thousand members from 70 countries, Nexus is a non-profit global engagement platform that mobilizes young investors, social entrepreneurs and philanthropists to inspire a new generation of leadership committed to philanthropic giving and social impact investing. The fifth annual Summit aimed to catalyse innovative collaboration to strengthen support for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Millennium Campus Conference

85. From 12 to 14 August 2015, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, the United Nations Office for Partnerships and the Millennium Campus Network, a non-profit organization, convened the seventh annual Millennium Campus Conference at United Nations Headquarters. The Conference gathered more than 500 university student leaders from more than 50 countries to provide an interactive education and discussion platform about the role of students in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.

IV. Conclusions

86. Mr. Turner's historic philanthropic contribution through the United Nations Foundation and UNFIP has contributed significantly to an increased mobilization of resources and increased expertise of business and non-governmental entities in support of the goals of the United Nations.

87. The United Nations Democracy Fund is now 11 years old and has proven to be a highly innovative and effective initiative. It has successfully complemented the work of many United Nations agencies that concentrate on the "supply" side of democratic institutions by focusing on the "demand" side through grants to local civil society organizations.

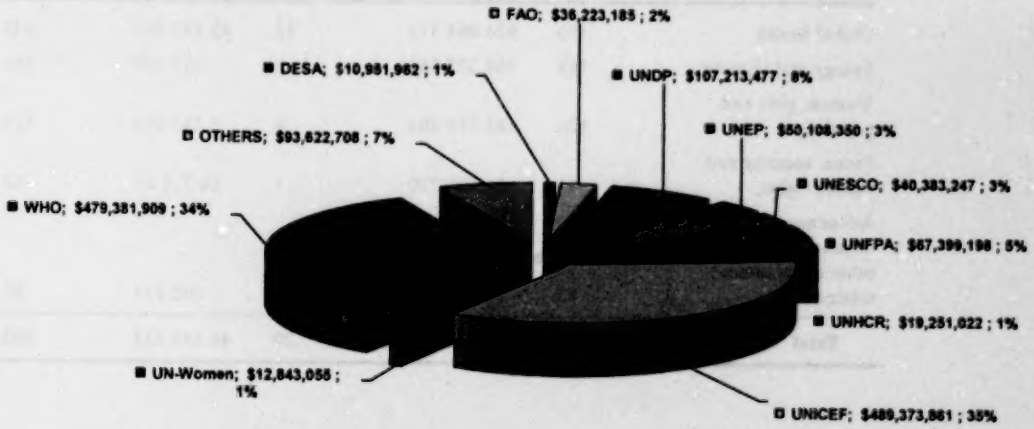
88. The operations of UNFIP and the United Nations Democracy Fund remain the core work of the United Nations Office for Partnerships. The Office has continued to convene events to increase awareness and mobilize action towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and provide advisory services to a wide range of public and private stakeholders.

Annex I

United Nations Fund for International Partnerships: distribution of funds and projects

A. Cumulative allocations approved by the United Nations Foundation, 1998-2015, distributed by implementing partners

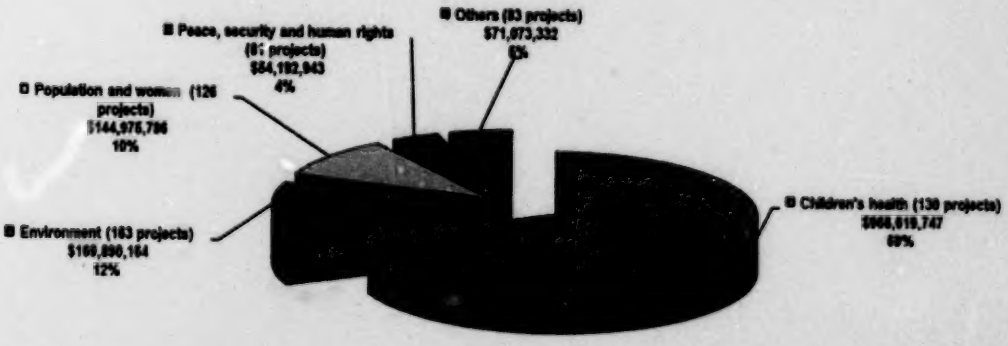
($1,406,751,972)



Abbreviations: DESA, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund; UNHCR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; UNICEF, United Nations Children's Fund; UN-Women, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; WHO, World Health Organization.

B. Thematic distribution of projects approved by the United Nations Foundation, 1998-2015

($1,406,751,972)



Annex II

Projects approved by the United Nations Foundation in 2015 and in prior years, by programme area

(United States dollars)

	1998-2014		*2015*		*1998-2015*	
Programme area	*Number of projects*	*Value*	*Number of projects*	*Value*	*Number of Projects*	*Value*
Global health	130	924 064 373	13	42 555 373	143	966 619 747
Energy and climate	163	169 322 664	3	567 500	166	169 890 164
Women, girls and population	126	142 729 784	8	2 246 002	134	144 975 786
Peace, security and human rights	61	54 108 730	1	84 212.89	62	54 192 942
Advocacy, communication and other development-related issues	83	70 381 097	4	692 234	87	71 073 331
Total	**563**	**1 360 606 649**	**29**	**46 145 323**	**592**	**1 406 751 972**

Annex III

Composition of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships in 2015

Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General (Chair)

Ambassador Sebastiano Cardi, Chair of the Second Committee of the General Assembly (until 14 September 2015)

Ambassador Andrej Logar, Chair of the Second Committee of the General Assembly (since 15 September 2015)

Ambassador Martin Sajdik, President of the Economic and Social Council (until 23 July 2015)

Ambassador Oh Joon, President of the Economic and Social Council (since 24 July 2015)

Ms. Susan M. Davis, former President and Chief Executive Officer, BRAC USA

Mr. Luis A. Ubiñas, President of the Board of Trustees, Pan American Development Foundation

Mr. Bruce Usher, Faculty Director, Social Enterprise Program, Columbia Business School

Mr. Yukio Takasu, Under-Secretary-General for Management

Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

Ms. Ann de la Roche (member, ex officio), Officer-in-Charge, United Nations Office for Partnerships

Annex IV

Financial contributions to the United Nations Democracy Fund, by donor, as at 31 December 2015

(United States dollars)

Donor	*Cumulative contribution received*
Argentina	25 000
Australia	9 212 424
Bulgaria	10 000
Chile	360 000
Croatia	71 000
Cyprus	5 000
Czech Republic	195 780
Denmark	265 018
Ecuador	5 000
Estonia	10 395
France	4 793 716
Georgia	24 943
Germany	16 179 187
Hungary	75 000
India	31 762 543
Iraq	5 000
Ireland	658 724
Israel	57 500
Italy	2 947 800
Japan	10 180 000
Latvia	15 000
Libya	15 000
Lithuania	49 332
Madagascar	5 000
Mongolia	10 000
Morocco	5 000
Panama	27 000
Peru	73 328
Poland	670 383
Portugal	150 000
Qatar	10 000 000
Republic of Korea	1 000 000
Romania	472 860
Senegal	100 000
Slovenia	127 924

Donor	*Cumulative contribution received*
Spain	5 043 311
Sri Lanka	5 000
Sweden	17 874 775
Turkey	265 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	609 350
United States of America	56 076 000
Other	2 230
Total	**169 440 524**

Annex V

Composition of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Democracy Fund in 2015

Member States

Australia

Bhutan

Chile

El Salvador

Germany

India

Latvia

Libya

Poland

Sierra Leone

Suriname

Sweden

United States of America

Non-governmental organizations

Action Aid International

Avaaz

Individuals

Ms. Aracelly Santana

Ms. Marjorie Tiven

Mr. Jeffrey Wright

United Nations A/71/160–S/2016/621

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 127 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), (s), (t), (u), (v), (w), (x) and (y) of the provisional agenda*

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

* A/71/150.

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Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In a number of resolutions, the General Assembly has noted with satisfaction the active participation of regional and other organizations in the work of the United Nations. The present report is prepared pursuant to the most recent requests of the Assembly that the Secretary-General submit a report on the implementation of those resolutions at its seventy-first session. As requested by the Assembly in paragraph 4 (l) of the annex to its resolution 58/316, this is a consolidated report on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.

The present report covers the period since the issuance of the most recent consolidated report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, issued on 4 August 2014 (A/69/228-S/2014/560).

In its resolution 1809 (2008), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to include, in his regular reporting to the Council, assessments of progress on the cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional organizations. In its presidential statement of 6 August 2013, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to include, in his next biannual report to the Council and the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, recommendations on ways to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional and subregional organizations and arrangements.

I. Introduction

1. Section II of the present report has been prepared pursuant to the most recent resolutions in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the cooperation between the United Nations and a number of regional and other organizations.

2. In its resolution 1809 (2008), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to include, in his regular reporting to the Council, assessments of progress on the cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional organizations. In its presidential statement of 6 August 2013, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to include, in his next biannual report to the Council and the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, recommendations on ways to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional and subregional organizations and arrangements.

3. The activities and achievements described in the present report speak to the depth and range of cooperation achieved between the United Nations and its regional partners across international peace and security, humanitarian assistance, development, and human rights.

II. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

African Union

4. The Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council held their ninth and tenth annual consultative meetings in 2015 and 2016. The United Nations-African Union Joint Task Force on Peace and Security continues to meet regularly in order to advance a common understanding of the causes of conflict in Africa and to promote joint approaches to resolving those conflicts.

5. The United Nations Office to the African Union has continued to strengthen the partnership with the African Union in the area of peace and security. Specifically, the Office has enhanced political engagement with the decision-making organs of the African Union and with the Commission. The Office has promoted shared analysis and common understanding between the United Nations and the African Union of the root causes and drivers of conflict and jointly developed options for intervention. Through sustained engagement of the African Union Commission, troop-contributing countries/police-contributing countries, Member States and donors, it has contributed to enhanced political coherence and alignment in decision-making by the two organizations, and promoted better coordinated joint initiatives in conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacekeeping. The United Nations Office to the African Union has been instrumental in facilitating better synchronized planning and management of African-led peace operations, as well as transitions to United Nations operations.

6. The Office continued to work with the African Union on the operationalization of the African Standby Force, as one of the key pillars of the African Peace and Security Architecture. Among the deliverables of this cooperation is the

implementation of the African Standby Force Road Map II, which culminated in the conduct of a continental-level peace support operations exercise, Amani Africa II, in October 2015 in South Africa, and its after-action review in March 2016 in Mozambique. The exercise aimed at assessing the operational readiness of the African Standby Force and involved the deployment of over 5,000 military, police and civilian personnel from the five regional standby forces. Following this exercise, four of the five regional standby forces declared their operational readiness.

7. During the past two years, the African Union-led International Support missions in Mali and the Central African Republic transitioned to fully fledged United Nations missions. Joint planning and management of these transitions have contributed to more effective communication between the African Union and the United Nations. The momentum created by the 2015 High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations report (S/2015/446) and my subsequent report on the future of United Nations peace operations (S/2015/682) has generated willingness among key actors to move forward on institutionalizing and expanding the United Nations-African Union partnership through consultations and coordination while also looking for ways to ensure sustained, predictable and flexible funding mechanisms for African Union peace operations.

8. In Somalia, the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union remains a key component of the international community's support to peacebuilding. Cooperation between the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia on the ground has remained strong, at both the strategic and operational level. The United Nations delivers the logistic support package to AMISOM through the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia, and its successor operation, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia. In addition, the United Nations Office to the African Union continued to provide technical management and expert advice to the African Union in the planning and deployment of AMISOM. The African Union and the United Nations conducted a second joint Mission in April 2015 which led to the AMISOM Concept of Operations review in August 2015.

9. In Burundi, cooperation on political and human rights efforts has intensified since the beginning of the crisis in April 2015. Since July 2015, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has provided logistical and capacity-building support to the African Union human rights observers and military experts deployed in Burundi and cooperated with the observers in joint monitoring missions and advocacy. In April 2016, the African Union and the Peacebuilding Support Office approved a project of $2.26 million to enable the continued deployment of 32 African Union human rights observers in Burundi for six months starting in April.

10. The Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region has continued to work closely with the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to advance the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region, signed in February 2013. The United Nations has also cooperated with the African Union, the International Conference and SADC in their efforts to eradicate illegal armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, notably the Mouvement du 23 mars and the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda. The United Nations,

together with the African Union, the International Conference and other partners, organized the first Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference in Kinshasa in February 2016.

11. Since December 2014, the United Nations and the African Union have co-chaired the International Contact Group on Libya, which has convened five times. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Libya regularly coordinated with the African Union Special Envoy for Libya, as well as with the Commissioner for Peace and Security, including through several visits to Addis Ababa.

12. In Guinea-Bissau, the Peacebuilding Commission has continued to support the region's efforts, including those of the African Union, to resolve the political crisis since August 2015.

13. The Department of Political Affairs continued to support the African Union Commission in its efforts aimed at establishing mediation support structures within the Commission. In 2015, the Department supported the United Nations Office to the African Union, the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan, and the African Union in mediation processes and implementation of agreements for Sudan and South Sudan.

14. The Department of Political Affairs, in consultation with the United Nations Office to the African Union, engaged both at the strategic and operational levels with the African Union and its African Centre for the Study and Research of Terrorism to develop a "Cooperation Framework on Counter-Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism".

15. The United Nations and the African Union continued to coordinate on country-specific electoral projects as necessary. The United Nations recruited and deployed a senior electoral expert to the United Nations Office to the African Union in early 2015. The senior electoral expert has contributed to the United Nations electoral support in the region and provided technical advice to the Democracy and Electoral Assistance Unit of the African Union as necessary.

16. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs provided support to the formulation of the African Humanitarian Policy Framework, policies related to the use and operationalization of the African Stand-By Force and allied resources under the African Union's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Support initiative. The Office also cooperated with the African Union on the Ebola outbreak in West Africa as well as in the run-up to the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul.

17. The Office of the Special Adviser for Africa has supported the Office of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace and Security. Following the adoption by the African Union of Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, respectively in January and June 2015, the office of the Special Adviser supported efforts by the African Union and its regional economic communities to mobilize international support for Agenda 2063 flagship projects.

18. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime continues to provide support to the implementation of the Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention 2013-2017. The Office is also supporting the African Union-Horn of Africa

Initiative against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, as well as the implementation of the Khartoum Process.

19. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict continued to engage with and support the African Union, in line with the Partnership Agreement signed with the African Union Peace and Security Commissioner in 2013. The Office has seconded a Senior Child Protection Adviser to the Peace and Security Department for the last two years, which is set to continue.

20. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) collaborated with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank on a number of common initiatives, such as the development and ongoing roll-out of Africa's new long-term vision and development framework, Agenda 2063; the Climate for Development in Africa Initiative; and the Joint Youth Employment Initiative for Africa. ECA, as the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, together with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank and in collaboration with the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) convened the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in June 2015.

21. UNDP, as one of the three strategic partners of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), has provided technical, capacity, and advisory support to the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency. The Department of Public Information worked with NEPAD to draw global attention to issues critical to Africa's development. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supports NEPAD capacity development work for nutrition-sensitive agriculture investment plans and the establishment of a knowledge-sharing platform for food security and nutrition as well as the implementation of the NEPAD Youth Programme. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has worked with NEPAD to combat rural poverty across the continent.

22. UNEP works with the African Ministries of the Environment and the African Union to assess ways to increase the contribution of natural capital to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063. UNEP is engaging the African Union Commission and Governments in the organization of a high-level panel on wildlife illegal trade.

23. Later in 2016, the first annual report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations-African Union partnership will be issued, as requested in the Security Council presidential statement dated 16 December 2014.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

24. In 2015, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United Nations conducted the second formal review of the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the two Organizations, adopted in November 2011. At the seventh ASEAN-United Nations Summit in November 2015, the Secretary-General and ASEAN Leaders agreed to hold consultations at the regional level and to produce an ASEAN-United Nations Plan of Action for 2016-2020.

25. As a follow-up to the Summit, a United Nations senior-level delegation held the first full-fledged secretariat-to-secretariat dialogue with the ASEAN secretariat,

and also a full consultation with the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives in March 2016 in Jakarta.

26. In February 2015, the second ASEAN-United Nations Regional Dialogue on Political-Security Cooperation, entitled "ASEAN-United Nations Collaboration in Support of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation", was co-organized by the Department of Political Affairs, the Government of Myanmar, and the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies. The Department continues to convene secretariat-to-secretariat meetings, ASEAN-United Nations Senior Officials' meetings, the ASEAN-United Nations Ministerial Meetings and ASEAN-United Nations Summits. The eighth ASEAN-United Nations Summit is scheduled to take place in September 2016 in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

27. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) convenes the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, which coordinates the United Nations system's collaboration with ASEAN on a number of issues. ESCAP has focused on coordinating United Nations inputs on economic and sociocultural cooperation for the 2015 interim Work Plan and the plan of action. ESCAP also provided capacity development assistance to ASEAN countries in several areas and supported tracking progress of the 12 Asia-Pacific least-developed countries towards meeting their graduation threshold.

28. In August 2015, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific organized the twenty-fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament, with the participation of ASEAN.

29. The Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate continued to assist ASEAN member States to strengthen their capacity on counter-terrorism. It also worked closely with the ASEAN Police Chiefs secretariat.

30. UNODC cooperates with ASEAN through its Offices in Jakarta and Bangkok. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration of the tenth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime in October 2015 endorsed illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber and people smuggling as new areas of transnational crimes as well as the formulation of a new ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. With the launch of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015, UNODC has worked on promoting the inclusion of security considerations when enhancing illicit cross-border trade.

31. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs engaged with ASEAN in a number of areas under the 2010-2015 ASEAN-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan on Disaster Management. It has also been an active partner in the development of the ASEAN Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures, the development of the ASEAN Regional Forum's Humanitarian Assistance to Disaster Relief Operations Strategic Guidance, together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and others.

32. The role of the International Labour Organization (ILO) is defined in the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme 2010-2015 and it is responsive to ASEAN priorities on mainstreaming the Decent Work Agenda. In 2015, ILO furthered its cooperation with ASEAN in a number of areas, including international labour standards, social protection, occupational safety and health, and promotion of workers' rights (including migrants' rights). ILO has a number of ASEAN-wide projects and contributes technical assistance to ASEAN.

33. FAO and ASEAN collaborated on several initiatives, including the development of a food security strategy, building the resilience of small-scale farmers and fishers, and climate change adaptation, mitigation, preparedness and response.

34. IFAD, in partnership with ASEAN and the European Union, launched a programme to improve the income and food security of small-scale farmers and rural producers in Asia in September 2015.

35. UNEP has facilitated preparation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2016-2020 and continued to support capacity development and knowledge sharing.

36. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) strengthened its cooperation with ASEAN through closer engagement in macroeconomic surveillance and capacity-building. High-level engagement between the IMF Managing Director and ASEAN Ministers of finance and central bank governors has been institutionalized. The IMF also participates in the ASEAN ministerial meetings where it provides high level, confidential assessments of risks, resilience and vulnerabilities in the region. The IMF provides training and technical assistance to ASEAN country officials and conducts regular outreach to civil society organizations and academics from ASEAN countries.

Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

37. The Secretary-General met with the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) in December 2014. They discussed political stability, peace and conflict resolution in the region, as well as regional cooperation on economic and development issues, in particular climate change and the post-2015 Agenda.

38. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) continued its cooperation with BSEC in a number of transportation-related areas. BSEC was instrumental in launching the use of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate as established by the 1982 International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods administered by the ECE Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport. ECE supported BSEC with developing a regional trade facilitation strategy.

39. UNEP works closely with BSEC to enhance the current structure of environmental governance in the Black Sea region and to integrate environmental considerations into national and regional policy dialogue. UNEP facilitates environmental discussions between Member States and offers expertise regarding transboundary issues of concern.

Caribbean Community

40. The eighth General Meeting between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the United Nations system was held at the CARICOM secretariat in Georgetown in July 2015, with the participation of the CARICOM Secretary-General. The participants reviewed the progress made in implementing the coordination mechanism led by the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and exchanged views on priority areas as identified by the CARICOM secretariat. Among the topics discussed were Small Island Developing States, climate change, renewable energy, the post-2015 Development

Agenda and financing for development, as well as citizen security and non-communicable diseases.

41. Following a United Nations needs assessment mission in March 2015, the Department of Political Affairs, in cooperation with UNDP, organized a Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) training and a round-table discussion on electoral matters for participants from the CARICOM secretariat and member States, which was held in March 2016. The workshop was an opportunity for the CARICOM secretariat, electoral officials from 12 CARICOM member States, the United Nations and representatives from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Organization of American States, to share experiences and good practices on key electoral issues.

42. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) supported and worked with the CARICOM secretariat and national mechanisms for gender equality in the 20-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and in the lead-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UN-Women continues to support gender-responsive follow-up to the Third International Conference on Small-Island Developing States (2014) in the region. UN-Women and CARICOM partnered in the development of the CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators Model, adopted in October 2015 by the CARICOM Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians, to monitor gender equality commitments in the Sustainable Development Goals.

43. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs and CARICOM organized a workshop on "Evidence-Informed Policies on Youth Development in the Caribbean" aimed at strengthening capacity to formulate, monitor and evaluate evidence-based policies on youth using internationally agreed indicators. The Department also supported the preparation of a regional e-Government strategy for the Caribbean at the request of CARICOM, together with the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration. The Department is currently finalizing a conceptual framework on e-Government for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean small island developing States, co-sponsored by the Centre for Innovation on e-Government and funded by the Government of Colombia.

44. The Department of Public Information worked with representatives from member States of CARICOM and the African Union for the 2015 and 2016 commemorations of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

45. FAO works closely with the CARICOM secretariat on the implementation of the Regional Food and Nutrition Strategy of CARICOM. Among other things, FAO leads two working groups — food security and natural resource management — of the Regional Agricultural Cluster that is chaired by CARICOM. It also supports the development of value chains identified by the CARICOM Council of Trade and Economic Development through two technical cooperation programmes.

46. UNEP participated in the meeting of the Council on Trade and Economic Development of CARICOM responsible for the promotion and development of policies for the protection of the environment and for sustainable development. It also cooperates with CARICOM on policy issues and project implementation.

47. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) coordinates and collaborates with CARICOM on gender equality, youth empowerment, reduction of adolescent pregnancy and maternal mortality, HIV prevention, gender-based and sexual violence prevention, data for development, humanitarian assistance, and population censuses.

48. The World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) have continued their partnership with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency of CARICOM. In 2015, the Agency and WFP co-chaired the regional consultations for the World Humanitarian Summit in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

49. UNODC supported the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy with training on addressing money-laundering and transnational organized crime. It also re-established its programme presence in Bridgetown.

Central European Initiative

50. The World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the meeting of the national coordinators of the Central European Initiative with other regional and international organizations, held in Vienna, Austria in May 2015.

51. The World Meteorological Organization promoted a new capacity-building project aimed at making South-East Europe a more climate resilient region.

52. ECE works with the Central European Initiative on advanced biofuels in the context of a bio-based economy.

Collective Security Treaty Organization

53. The United Nations continued to engage the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) in regular consultations on regional and global peace and security issues of mutual interest, as well as potential areas for greater cooperation on conflict prevention, early warning and peacekeeping-related issues.

54. In September 2014, the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate Executive Director held consultations in Moscow with the Deputy Secretary-General of CSTO. Among other things, the consultations focused on the Executive Directorate's cooperation with CSTO, the situation in Central Asia, and regional activities organized by implementing partners with the expert support of the Executive Directorate. In follow-up to that meeting, a draft protocol on cooperation between the two organizations is currently under consideration.

55. In 2015, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for Caucasus, Central Asia and Ukraine engaged CSTO in order to enhance interoperability during emergency response.

Commonwealth of Independent States

56. In September 2014, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's Executive Director held consultations in Moscow with the Head of the Anti-Terrorist Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States on its cooperation with the Commonwealth, among other topics. In 2015, the Executive Directorate and the Anti-Terrorist Centre exchanged information on the foreign terrorist fighter threat in the regions, as well as on measures taken by the Anti-Terrorist Centre to counter violent extremism, incitement and radicalization.

The CIS Anti-Terrorist Centre also participated in the assessment visits of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in 2015 and 2016.

57. FAO supported the development of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS action plan for the implementation of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics in the CIS region.

58. ECE cooperates closely with the Statistical Committee of CIS through sharing of programmes of work and organizing joint activities. The ECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents engages in regular exchange of information with the Inter-State Council on Industrial Safety under CIS on industrial accident prevention and preparedness.

59. WHO participated in the forty-third plenary session of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of CIS, held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, on 27 November 2015.

Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

60. The Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) is a key partner of ILO for the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour in Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste. 2016 was declared "CPLP Year Against Child Labour" for which ILO has organized workshops to draft a plan of joint activities to secure adoption of national plans. A joint ILO/CPLP letter asks Member States to raise awareness of child labour and ratify Convention 138.

61. UNODC continued to cooperate with the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the implementation of their action plan on trafficking in persons.

62. FAO is implementing a technical cooperation programme in support of the CPLP Regional Strategy for food security and nutrition.

Council of Europe

63. The United Nations and the Council of Europe continued their cooperation on the protection and strengthening of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as well as regional issues. In June 2015, the Secretary-General visited the Council of Europe, where he also addressed its Parliamentary Assembly. The Secretary-General of the Council of Europe participated in the high-level segment of the General Assembly and addressed the sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. The Council contributed to the discussions leading to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

64. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014), the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and the Council of Europe worked closely on the development, negotiations and conclusions of the Council of Europe additional Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. The Protocol was signed in Riga on 21 October 2015. The Council of Europe participates routinely in Counter-Terrorism Committee visits.

65. ECE cooperates with the Council in the area of demographic statistics and population issues.

66. UNHCR continued its advocacy and provision of legal expertise on refugee law to the Council of Europe.

67. UNODC cooperates with the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe in drug policy development, jointly promoting the right to health for people in prisons and increasing availability, accessibility and quality of HIV services in prison settings for people who use drugs.

Economic Community of Central African States

68. The United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) are revising their framework-of-cooperation agreement in line with the new mandate of the Regional Office for the period 2015-2018. The Regional Office continues to hold regular consultations with ECCAS on issues of common interest. In October 2014, the Regional Office and ECCAS jointly organized a workshop on gender issues in Central Africa. In April 2016, the Regional Office and ECCAS held a joint strategic retreat in Libreville, Gabon, to discuss cooperation between the two entities in light of the challenges facing the subregion.

69. In his capacity as the United Nations representative to the international mediation initiative on the crisis in the Central African Republic, Special Representative Abdoulaye Bathily worked closely with the ECCAS-appointed mediator, President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, the ECCAS Secretary-General and the African Union Special Envoy for the Central African Republic.

70. The Regional Office for Central Africa and the Department of Political Affairs continued to support ECCAS in strengthening its mediation capacity. In November 2014, the Department and the Regional Office organized a mediation training course for staff members of the ECCAS secretariat in Libreville. In February 2015, the Department provided further technical support on mediation at a workshop in N'Djamena.

71. In May and October 2015, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission organized working luncheons with representatives of ECCAS, the African Union Commission, and the Economic Community of West African States, among others. In the course of these, several participants called for an institutional partnership between the Commission, the African Union and the African subregional organizations, and underscored the need for enhanced conflict prevention and predictable investments in efforts to sustain peace.

72. During the reporting period, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the ECCAS secretariat collaborated on strengthening disaster management and preparedness in Central Africa. In 2015, the secretariats of the Office and ECCAS proposed a rapid response roster mechanism, which was launched in June 2016. UNISDR continued to provide technical support for mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in ECCAS activities and programmes.

73. ECCAS continued to take part in regional workshops of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, which culminated in the comprehensive regional counter-terrorism strategy adopted in December 2015. UNODC contributed to the development of this strategy and was given a mandate to support the establishment of a regional judicial cooperation platform for Central Africa in cooperation with ECCAS.

74. UNEP has supported ECCAS to strengthen its capacity to assist countries in their transition towards a Green Economy development model. UNEP and ECCAS also collaborate in addressing the illegal wildlife trade in the region in partnership with the African Union, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and other relevant bodies.

Economic Cooperation Organization

75. The Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs cooperated with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in organizing a capacity-building workshop on the Compilation of Quarterly National Accounts for ECO member States in Tehran, in March 2015. FAO has an ongoing collaboration with ECO to enhance the technical capacity of national statisticians in ECO countries.

76. The Forum on Forests collaborated closely with ECO in capacity-building efforts aimed at sustainable management of forests.

77. ECO participates regularly in the work of ECE and undertakes to align its activities with the objectives of the main border-crossing facilitation conventions administered under ECE auspices.

78. UNEP continues to support subregional initiatives in the ECO region in order to enhance environmentally sound and renewable energy services and resources, and to engage in capacity-building services in the areas of environmental law and education for sustainable development and sustainable tourism.

79. UNISDR provides strategic and technical guidance to ECO for incorporating disaster risk reduction and resilience-building programmes. The ECO secretariat, in consultation with UNISDR, is spearheading the preparation of a regional strategy and a plan of action for disaster risk reduction aligning with the Sendai Framework.

Eurasian Economic Community

80. FAO and the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC) are together implementing the 2015-2018 Plan of Action. In June 2015, the FAO Director General visited the EurAsEC headquarters and invited the organization to consider membership in FAO. In September 2015, FAO organized a seminar on "Cooperatives in CIS countries" at the EurAsEC headquarters.

International Organization of la Francophonie

81. The United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) continued coordinating their mediation efforts. Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa, Abdoulaye Bathily, regularly met with OIF Secretary-General to discuss cooperation in the subregion.

82. In October 2014, the Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect and OIF jointly provided technical assistance to the Government of the Central African Republic to establish a National Committee for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination.

83. The United Nations Police Division enhanced its cooperation with OIF in order to increase the participation of francophone countries in peacekeeping operations.

84. UN-Women and OIF renewed their framework partnership agreement in 2014 for a further two years to advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment. UN-Women participated in the OIF high-level consultation of francophone ministers on the occasion of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in March 2015.

85. In 2015-2016, the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and OIF cooperated in the implementation of a project aimed at supporting Supreme Court Justices in leading a criminal justice response to terrorism in the Sahel region.

86. In the margins of the twenty-first Conference of the Parties, UNDP and OIF renewed their partnership in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the run-up to the twenty-second Conference of the Parties to be held in Morocco, the cooperation continues around post-Paris activities.

87. The Department of Public Information worked with OIF to organize and promote the March 2016 screening and panel discussion at United Nations Headquarters of the film *Demain*, which highlights issues related to climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

88. ECE has a long-standing collaboration in the field of trade facilitation with the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System.

League of Arab States

89. The United Nations and the League of Arab States (LAS) continued to enhance cooperation, including through considering the establishment of a United Nations Liaison Office to LAS in Cairo. The two organizations held their thirteenth biennial General Cooperation meeting from 17 to 19 May 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland, where they discussed collaboration in a number of areas, including peace and security, among others.

90. The Department of Public Information has worked with LAS to strengthen its capacities in conflict prevention and mediation. In 2014 and 2015, the Department hosted LAS staff in order to familiarize them with the Department's work, including its Mediation Support Unit. The Department also conducted an assessment mission to LAS headquarters to determine mediation training needs.

91. The United Nations continued its electoral partnership with LAS, including through BRIDGE (Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections) trainings on electoral matters and technical advice on the establishment of the LAS electoral database. The United Nations and LAS collaborated in organizing the first Forum of Electoral Management Bodies in the Arab States, which was held in Cairo in May 2016.

92. The Department of Political Affairs Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre also engaged in consultations with LAS to explore support for the LAS project on "Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through the Media to Counter Terrorism in the Arab Region".

93. UN-Women supported the development of a regional action plan on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which was endorsed by the Ministerial Council of LAS in September 2015 and will be launched in 2016.

94. In November 2015, the Office of Legal Affairs organized an International Law Seminar for Arab States in cooperation with LAS and the Government of Egypt in Cairo.

95. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and LAS continued to strengthen their efforts aimed at developing a regional Arab strategy for human rights. They held their twelfth sectoral thematic meeting in Cairo in October 2015.

96. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict entered into a cooperation agreement with LAS aimed at mainstreaming "Children and Armed Conflict" in programmes and policies of LAS members and the organization's broader protection and human rights work.

97. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs signed a new joint action plan with LAS in June 2015 which sets out a framework for closer collaboration on emergency preparedness and response, humanitarian coordination, capacity-building, resource mobilization and advocacy. LAS played an active role in the lead-up to the World Humanitarian Summit through its financial contribution as well as hosting of regional consultations. It also co-chaired the Regional Steering Group for the Middle East and North Africa along with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

98. UNHCR and LAS organized a regional training on "Refugees and Irregular Migration" in November 2015. Related to the possible adoption of an Arab Refugee Convention, the Arab Interior Ministers' Council adopted the "Draft Arab Convention" text in March 2016 for which UNHCR provided technical assistance.

99. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) continued its cooperation with LAS to influence regional policy priorities, build consensus and identify regional approaches to challenges, through the organization of consultations, high-level meetings and preparation of knowledge products. ESCWA, together with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNEP, cooperated with LAS in organizing two Arab High-level Forums on Sustainable Development in Amman, Jordan (April 2014) and Manama (May 2015). ESCWA and LAS worked on a regional initiative for the assessment of climate change impacts on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab Region with workshops in Cairo (December 2014) and Beirut (June 2015).

100. In coordination with the LAS, the United Nations information centre in Cairo organized several online dialogues to promote key issues, including the Sustainable Development Goals and countering violent extremism.

101. UNFPA maintains strategic partnerships with, and provides ongoing technical assistance to, the LAS and OIC, including for the conduct of national family health surveys.

102. UNODC continues to support LAS for the adoption of measures aimed at enhancing the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking cases, protecting victims, and strengthening regional cooperation for the implementation of the "Arab Initiative" and the "Comprehensive Arab Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings" (2014-2017).

103. IMF works with the Arab Monetary Fund on regional policy coordination, training, Arab statistics and Arab debt markets.

Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM

104. ECE has contributed to the organization's agreement on data exchange concerning Customs.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

105. The United Nations has strengthened its cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in several areas, including in mediation, electoral matters, and country-specific issues.

106. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, together with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, worked with OSCE on the development of the Joint Plan of Action for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has also engaged with OSCE in the development of a number of counter-terrorism capacity-building projects and outreach activities, including the OSCE Annual Counter-Terrorism Conference. The Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate has worked closely with OSCE on efforts aimed at countering the financing of terrorism, bringing terrorists to justice, and border control. The OSCE participated in several assessment visits conducted by the Executive Directorate on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and cooperated in implementing the recommendations of those visits. UNODC and OSCE closely coordinate in planning their counter-terrorism activities and have organized several joint workshops in the OSCE region.

107. The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect presented its atrocity crime risk assessment methodology to the annual OSCE early warning focal points meeting in Vienna in July 2015.

108. The United Nations Police Division has coordinated closely with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit. The Police Division and OSCE also hold regular staff-to-staff discussions on guidance coherence between the two organizations.

109. ECE continues its long-standing cooperation with OSCE in advancing the implementation of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. The two organizations have conducted a number of joint capacity-building events and projects over the last few years in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

110. UNEP, ECE and UNDP cooperate with OSCE within the framework of the Environment and Security Initiative to provide an integrated response to environment and security challenges.

Organization of American States

111. The Department of Political Affairs and the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy of the Organization of American States (OAS) hold yearly desk-to-desk dialogues, the most recent of which took place in December 2015. Within the Joint Mediation Partnership between the United Nations and OAS, the organizations have identified areas for collaboration, including mediation-related training and sharing

of tools, guidelines and expertise. The two also work together on a number of electoral initiatives.

112. The Department of Political Affairs, together with the UNODC Regional Programme Office in Panama, provided technical guidance to OAS in 2015 and 2016 in connection with the OAS Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras.

113. UNODC and OAS, through the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, cooperated on a set of joint recommendations on asset recovery and management to the Government of Brazil. They also conducted a training to national authorities in Paraguay on the investigation of corruption and money-laundering.

114. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre participated in the Inter-regional Specialized Workshop on Illicit Finance and Criminal and Terrorist Networks, held by the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism in August 2015.

115. UNDP and OAS launched an early-warning guide for policymakers to prevent and resolve social conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean, entitled "Early Warning and Response Systems Design for Social Conflicts" in March 2016. The two organizations collaborated closely, along with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other international partners, in the context of the 2015 Haiti elections.

116. WFP and OAS signed an agreement in September 2015 to intensify their joint efforts to improve food security and nutrition in the Americas.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation

117. The United Nations has continued to strengthen its cooperation with the OIC on peace and security matters, including by holding desk-to-desk exchanges and deepening mediation and electoral partnerships. Representatives of the two organizations meet biannually to discuss their cooperation and agree on joint projects. Their latest biennial General Cooperation meeting was held from 11 to 13 May 2016 in Geneva. In addition, the United Nations is working with OIC on a joint initiative to facilitate peace talks between the Taliban and the Government of Afghanistan.

118. The Department of Political Affairs and UNDP supported OIC in organizing a workshop on the role of civil society in enhancing the integrity of electoral processes in July 2015. The Department's Division for Palestinian Rights collaborated with OIC in organizing three international conferences on the Question of Jerusalem.

119. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Centre for Counter-Terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate continued to strengthen their cooperation with OIC and regularly engaged with OIC on efforts of OIC member States in implementing, respectively, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and provisions of Security Council resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014).

120. FAO supports a series of studies by OIC on food loss and waste and is also collaborating with the Islamic Development Bank and with the Statistical,

Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries to implement the Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics.

121. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs cooperates with the humanitarian department of OIC to build their capacity and to jointly advocate for a better and more effective humanitarian response. In November 2014, OIC co-led a partnership mission to Chad with the African Union and the Office to raise awareness of the prevailing situation. In June 2015, OIC and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs brought together OIC-affiliated non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the Global South and international NGOs to discuss ways to enhance inclusive coordination in humanitarian affairs.

122. UNHCR continued enhancing its cooperation with OIC. A high-level OIC delegation participated in the UNHCR High-level meeting on global responsibility sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees held in March 2016 in Geneva.

123. WHO is a member of the OIC Steering Committee on Health, and is active with several OIC bodies, including the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries. WHO works closely with the Islamic Advisory Group on Polio Eradication.

Pacific Islands Forum

124. In August 2014, the Secretary-General participated in the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa, where the small island developing States Accelerated Modalities Of Action ("Samoa Pathway") was adopted. United Nations entities provided support to the Pacific small island developing States in the lead-up to the Conference and have taken steps to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway outcome document, in close collaboration with the Pacific Island Forum and the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific.

125. On 26 September 2014, the Secretary-General met with the leaders of the Pacific Island Forum on the margins of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly to discuss the importance of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, climate change and gender issues. On 1 October 2015, the Secretary-General met the leaders on the margins of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, where they affirmed the need to urgently and decisively address the unique vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and on climate change.

126. ESCAP and the Pacific Islands Forum cooperated on promoting the sustainable development of small island developing States through a range of initiatives and activities aimed at enhancing national capacities and institutions, enhancing the Pacific voice and representation.

127. UNDP has continued its dialogue with the Pacific Island Forum and the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific entities on how best to align United Nations Development Frameworks and related country programming with the priorities identified by Pacific leaders in the context of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism and the Samoa Pathway.

128. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has engaged with the Pacific Island Forum on advocacy for internal displacement issues, launching together with OHCHR a campaign to raise awareness and build commitment by Member States on issues related to displacement. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has also engaged the Pacific Island Forum around the World Humanitarian Summit regional consultations.

129. UNODC works in close cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat, including in response to its request for assistance in updating model legal provisions to harmonize them with current international legal standards related to terrorism.

130. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, together with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, chairs the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on small island developing States, an informal mechanism for collaboration on issues advancing the sustainable development of small island developing States.

131. FAO continued its cooperation with the Pacific Island Forum, including on land management, integrated pest management, agricultural statistics, atoll agriculture and oceanic fisheries management.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization

132. In October 2014, the Director of the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization briefed the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee on its regional efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism. The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure also participated in a Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate assessment visit to Uzbekistan and hosted a meeting between the Director of its Executive Directorate and delegation in Tashkent in April 2015. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization attended and substantively contributed to a regional workshop on preventive obligations and criminalization of offences regarding foreign terrorist fighters jointly held by UNODC and OSCE in Almaty in August 2015.

133. ESCAP has strengthened its cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). In May 2015, the Secretary-General of SCO attended the seventy-first session of ESCAP, where the Executive Secretary and the Secretary-General agreed to renew the memorandum of understanding between the two organizations for an additional five years, with a greater emphasis on economic development and regional cooperation.

134. WHO collaborated with SCO on the organization of the second meeting of Ministers of Health of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, held in Moscow in July 2015.

Southern African Development Community

135. The Department of Political Affairs continued to support SADC with technical assistance on mediation. In 2015, the Department supported the efforts of the SADC Mediation Support Unit by providing experts to the meetings of the SADC Mediation Reference Group and contributing to the development of SADC mediation training.

136. Since the start of 2015, the Department has engaged in consultations with SADC Member States and the SADC secretariat on the establishment of a United Nations regional office for Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region.

137. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre assisted SADC with the development of a regional counter-terrorism strategy, which was approved by the Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Government in August 2015.

138. UNODC and SADC developed a Joint Regional Programme to make the SADC region safer from crime and drugs (2013-2016). The Office supported SADC member States in strengthening their capacity to implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. UNODC and the SADC secretariat carried out a number of joint activities aimed at bringing national legislations into compliance with international standards and raising the capacity of SADC member States to address drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, gender-based violence and corruption.

139. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and SADC collaborated on early warning, information management, emergency preparedness and regional coordination during emergency response, among other things. The Office supports the roll-out of standardized vulnerability assessment tools to allow a comprehensive and comparable analysis of risk across the region. The Office's Regional Office for Southern Africa is supporting SADC in the development of its humanitarian framework.

140. UNISDR supported the establishment of a disaster risk reduction unit in the SADC secretariat. In December 2015, SADC and UNISDR jointly conducted the first ever peer review on disaster risk reduction in Africa.

141. UNEP joins the SADC Technical Committee on Environment in an advisory capacity and has provided technical advice to the finalization of the SADC Environment Protocol Development of the SADC Climate Change Action Plan, SADC Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan and the SADC Green Growth Strategy.

III. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; and Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

142. The Office for Disarmament Affairs is working with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education, with a particular emphasis on empowering women.

143. OPCW is a member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and co-chairs its Inter-Agency Working Group on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction Terrorist Attacks. Within this Working Group, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism

Centre and OPCW have developed a global project on ensuring effective inter-agency interoperability and coordinated communication in the case of chemical and/or biological attacks.

144. ECE worked with OPCW on chemical safety and industrial accident prevention, notably through a joint workshop on industrial accident prevention for Central Asia in Astana in May 2015. OPCW has also joined an inter-agency coordination group on industrial accidents, established by ECE in the context of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

IV. Observations and recommendations

145. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations has significantly deepened and diversified in recent years. Such cooperation has proven critical to ensuring effective international peace and security engagements, as highlighted in the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/95-S/2015/446). The Secretary-General remains committed to strengthening further this cooperation through deepened partnerships, especially through developing context-specific approaches to cooperation, taking full account of the specificities and demands of each region, as well as the mandate of the institution concerned.